

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Scherer on 7/18/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 5, replace "filamentary material" with --dental floss material--.

In claim 3, line 4, replace "said filamentary material" with --said dental floss material--.

In claim 17, lines 2, 3 replace "said filamentary material" with -- said dental floss material--.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of prior art taken alone or in combination show a dental floss dispenser having a housing with a pair of opposed wall portions being parallel and spaced apart by less than 6mm, a reel of dental floss within the housing, the reel having a bearing surface projecting outwardly from a sidewall, at least one wall having a circular aperture, wherein the aperture having a complementary surface abuts the bearing surface of the reel; the closest art is Miller (USP 3,062,475) having a housing with a circular aperture, a reel of filamentary material positioned against the circular aperture, wherein the reel having a lip forming a bearing

surface abuts a complementary bearing surface of the housing. Miller fails to show the supply being dental floss and the housing having a pair of parallel planar walls being spaced apart by less than 6mm.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robyn Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-4711. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cris Rodriguez can be reached on (571) 272-4964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Robyn Doan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3732